

Prohibit New Offshore Oil & Gas Drilling

Our coastlines support an array of incredible wildlife and ecosystems, support millions of jobs, and are home to nearly 40% of the U.S. population. Unfortunately, our coasts are vulnerable to new offshore oil and gas leasing by the Department of Interior. Surfrider is calling on Congress to pass legislation to prohibit new offshore oil and gas leasing in all U.S. waters.

PROBLEM

Marine environments and human communities are threatened by new offshore oil and gas leasing proposals. Each stage of offshore drilling causes serious impacts.

Even before drilling begins, harmful impacts start from oil exploration where seismic blasts stun and deafen marine life, including whales and dolphins. Once drilling starts, rigs emit toxic muds onto the seafloor, continuously polluting our oceans with heavy metals and petroleum derivatives. Oil spills are unavoidable, causing damage to entire ecosystems, while threatening our ocean recreation and tourism economy that provides 12 times more jobs than offshore oil production.

Onshore refineries pollute frontline communities with carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide and toxins that damage public health. Offshore drilling disproportionately impacts lower-income and communities of color. Finally, the oil and gas sector is the second largest emitter of greenhouse gases in the U.S. Instead of reducing risks, new drilling will exacerbate the dangerous effects of climate change.

SOLUTIONS

Pass legislation to protect our coasts. Surfrider supports legislation to prohibit new oil and gas development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) and opposes mandates to require new OCS oil and gas leasing. More than 400 municipalities, 2,500 elected officials, 55,000 businesses and 500,000 fishing families oppose new offshore oil and gas development. It's time to end new offshore drilling in the US.

East Coast

S. 617/H.R. 1320- Clean Ocean and Safe Tourism (COAST) Anti-Drilling Act

West Coast

S. 22/H.R. 470- West Coast Protection Act

Florida & Eastern Gulf

H.R. 1443- Florida Coastal Protection Act

Alaska

S. 3201/H.R. 4031- Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act

National

S. 3026/H.R. 4936- Nonrestrictive Offshore Wind Act

